

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

The Record of Zoological Literature, 1867. Volume Fourth. Edited by ALBERT C. L. GÜNTHER, M.A. &c. &c. Van Voorst, 1868.

WE must, with our opening words in noticing this publication, congratulate the publisher and editor upon the wise step which they have taken in giving naturalists the opportunity of purchasing either the whole volume or only that portion of the 'Record' which relates to the special section of zoology in which they may be chiefly interested.

Zoologists, as a rule, are not overburdened with cash; and it has doubtless been the feeling with many that, however much they recognized the value of the 'Zoological Record' and desired to have that portion which related to the classes they were studying, they could not afford to devote thirty shillings, out of their annual sum set apart for books, for the purchase of the volume; but now such persons have it in their power to obtain what they require for one-third of that sum. This is an immense gain to naturalists, and we trust that there will be few libraries now from which these valuable analyses will be absent. The slip in this year's volume which gives us this information we print here for the information of our readers:—

"To facilitate the acquisition of these Reports, which are almost indispensable to working zoologists, it has been arranged to issue, in future, each volume in three parts, viz.:

"Part I., containing the Reports on Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, and Fishes. By Dr. Günther and Prof. Newton. Price 10s.

"Part II., containing the Reports on Entomology. By W. S. Dallas, F.L.S. Price 14s.

"Part III., containing the Reports on Mollusca, Crustacea, and the Lower Animals. By Dr. Von Martens and Prof. E. P. Wright. Price 10s.

"Purchasers of the entire volume will receive it in the same form and at the same price (30s.) as before."

In our notice of the volume of last year we expressed a hope that at the ensuing meeting of the British Association steps would be taken to renew a grant made the previous year in aid of the large expenses incurred in the publication of the Record. It must, we think, have proved most gratifying to Dr. Günther and his coeditors to witness the manner in which this question was taken up at Norwich. It was not that a grant was made, which was in itself a trifling circumstance; but the way in which the members of Section D vied with each other in their terms of eulogium on the value of the editor's labours, the manner in which all other committees applying for grants conceded the first place to the 'Record,' and desired that in the communication to the Committee of Recommendations it should be distinctly stated that it was the unanimous desire of Section D that the grant to the 'Record' should be the first entertained, and the special vote of thanks to the editors for the services which they were rendering to all students of zoology were

circumstances so unusual, and marks of approbation so exceptional, that they cannot have failed to prove most gratifying to those whom it was thus intended to honour. The publication of this work is a credit to the naturalists of our country; and if it should prove that the number of really scientific workers and consequent purchasers is insufficient to defray the expenses necessarily incurred in the printing and publishing of an annual volume of this kind, then, as we have before maintained, there can be no more proper appropriation of the funds of the British Association than the voting of such a sum as shall enable the Record to be continued for the "advancement of science."

The contributors this year remain as before, with one exception: Mr. Spence Bate, who reported on the Crustacea, has resigned, and Dr. Von Martens has become his successor. He has been a most able and accurate analyser from the first, of that portion of zoological literature which relates to the Mollusca; and he appears to have most carefully and conscientiously executed the additional burden which has now been laid upon him.

On a former occasion we extracted from the 'Record' the short *résumé* of what had been written during the preceding year upon that most interesting fact, the migration and extension of the bivalve mollusk *Dreissena polymorpha* over Continental Europe. The present volume contains further notes on the same subject, and with these we conclude our brief notice of this volume, heartily wishing the editors continued success in their most useful "labour of love."

"*Dreissena fluviatilis* (Pall.) [*polymorpha*] appeared in 1864 in the Loire near Orleans and Tours, and recently at Nantes and in some smaller streams of France, and in October 1865 in the Rhone near Avignon. (J. Mabille, Journ. Conch. xv. pp. 108–110.) P. Fischer adds some other particulars, referring its appearance in the Département du Nord to the year 1838, in the Scarpe and Canal de la Deule to 1844, in the Rhone to 1856[?], and in the Garonne to 1866. The same *Dreissena polymorpha* has been observed in the kingdom of Würtemberg, in the river Neckar at Heilbronn, by M. Drautitz, in the spring of 1867. Würtemb. naturwiss. Jahreshfte (1868) vol. xxiv. p. 44. O. A. L. Mörch persists in doubting whether this mollusk had not been living in Germany before 1820, regarding Sander's note (see Record for 1865, p. 217) as a sufficient proof (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. Feb. 1867, xix. pp. 82–84)."

Annuario della Società dei Naturalisti in Modena. Modena, 1868, 8vo, pp. 206, pls. 7.

THE third volume of this work has just reached this country. It contains the following papers:—

L. Gambari.—Description of the Quartz of Porretta.

C. Rondani.—Larva and Parasite of *Tischeria complanella*.—Diptera collected in South America by Prof. P. Ströbel in the years 1866, 1867.

Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 4. Vol. iii.

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